### **PCT**

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## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup>:

C11B 11/00, C08L 91/06, A23D 9/00,
9/02

(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/45390

(43) International Publication Date: 15 October 1998 (15.10.98)

(21) International Application Number: P

PCT/AU98/00234

(22) International Filing Date:

7 April 1998 (07.04.98)

(30) Priority Data:

PO 6050

7 April 1997 (07.04.97) AU

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#### Published

With international search report.

(54) Title: FOOD GRADE WAX AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING SAME

#### (57) Abstract

The invention provides a wax composition which can be used in comestibles. The wax composition is obtained from sugar cane and compises wax esters, aldehydes, tri-glycerides, alcohols, free fatty acids, sterols and polar lipids. A process for preparing a wax composition from crude sugar cane wax, the process comprising the steps of: (i) heating a solution of the crude wax with a lower alcohol as sovlent at the boiling point of the solvent; (ii) allowing phase separation of the solution from (i) and decanting the upper phase while hot; (iii) allowing the separated phase from (ii) to cool and separating crystallised wax from the solvent; (iv) repeating steps (i) to (iii) using the wax from (iii) until all pitch has been removed from wax; (v) heating the wax to between 90 and 140 °C and oxidising molten wax with oxidising material; and (vi) continuing the heating under and inert gas on completion of the oxidation step until intermediate peroxide products are removed.